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News Release

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City of Durham Crews Continue Street Clearing Operations

Motorists Urged to Use Caution Tomorrow Morning Due to Black Ice; Clearing Now Focused on Neighborhood Streets

DURHAM, N.C. – The City of Durham has been working around the clock since Friday morning to clear city streets after this weekend's winter storm. The City's [Public Works Department](#) has been salting and sanding city streets and operating in continuous 12-hour shifts as crews tackled primary and secondary roads, bridges, emergency routes, and neighborhood streets.

Crews were able to clear 90 percent of primary roads on Saturday, and began work on secondary roads before the entire system froze overnight. On Sunday, crews focused on finishing the primary and secondary roads and began clearing residential streets. On Monday, crews were able to clear approximately 15 percent of neighborhood streets, and will continue clearing operations overnight and tomorrow. Durham motorists should continue to be cautious of black ice tonight and tomorrow morning.

According to Public Works Director Marvin Williams, this winter

weather event has been tough to tackle since it was a mostly ice event. “Clearing streets after ice events is very difficult and hard on our equipment. Our 22 trucks can’t plow through ice, only treat it, and Mother Nature has to do the rest,” Williams said. “Salt only works when temperatures stay in the upper 20s or higher. With daytime temps remaining close to freezing and overnight lows dipping into the teens, we struggled over the weekend to get our streets clear. We know it’s frustrating for our residents to have icy streets and I want them to know that we appreciate their patience, and that our crews are working as quickly and safely as possible to clear streets.”

Thus far during this winter weather event, crews have put down 2,400 tons of salt-and-sand mix to treat and plow the 850 miles of city and state streets. In addition to the efforts of the City’s Public Works Department, the City’s General Services Department worked to clear sidewalks within the downtown business district as well as provide access to several downtown City facilities, including Fire Station #1, Durham Station, and Durham Police Headquarters. Crews used approximately 45 tons of sand-and-salt mix throughout the event, and continued today to clear and treat for black ice.

Residents are reminded that curbside trash and recycling collections will be delayed by two days this week due to the condition of many neighborhood streets. For more information on this week’s revised collection schedule, visit <http://bit.ly/1S63VZj>.

Residents and City employees are encouraged to stay up-to-date on information about City operational hours as well as program and service changes through the following ways:

- <http://DurhamNC.gov>
- <http://Facebook.com/CityofDurhamNC>
- <http://Twitter.com/CityofDurhamNC>
- [Durham One Call](#) at (919) 560-1200
- [Durham Television Network](#) (Time Warner Cable channel 8 and AT&T U-verse channel 99)

For weather-related updates for any Durham Parks and Recreation (DPR) facilities, recreation centers or special events, call the DPR weather line at (919) 560-4636 and select option #9. Updates will also be available on DPR's [website](#), on [Facebook](#), and on [Twitter](#). To find out about GoDurham service disruptions, riders should visit the GoDurham [website](#) or call (919) 485-RIDE (7433) for details.

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